

THE JOURNAL



OF THE PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

NUMBER 11

APRIL 1987

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PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Founded 1915

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PCNS CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

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APRIL 29, 1987 - WEDNESDAY - 8:00 PM
TOPIC: NUMISMATIC TRIBUTES TO ADMIRAL
DEWEY
SPEAKER: O. L. WALLIS

MAY 27, 1987 - WEDNESDAY - 8:00 PM
TOPIC: CLEANING AND PRESERVATION OF COINS
SPEAKER: JIM ROSEN

JUNE 27, 1987 - SATURDAY - 7:00 PM
PCNS 72ND ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE TELEPHONE
MUSEUM, 1145 LARKIN STREET AT BUSH, SAN
FRANCISCO. GUESTS ARE INVITED.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

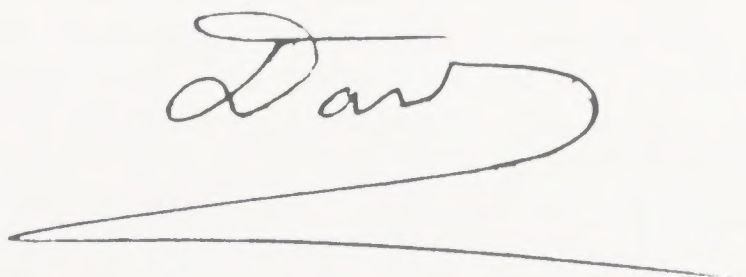
by David F. Cieniewicz

This being my final column before the 80th CSNA Convention, I would like to thank everyone for their efforts to date. I am confident that this support will continue during the final weeks before the convention. For those members wishing to participate, we still need help in many small ways. Please consider joining us at either a planning meeting, volunteering an hour or two during the convention, or becoming a convention patron. Details are available from any of the PCNS officers.

Numismatically, I think we are living in some rather exciting times. Last year ushered in the first complete series of U.S. gold coins in 50 years, the silver American Eagle bullion program, and the Statue of Liberty commemoratives coupled with a healthy mint-numismatist relationship. This year we can look forward to new Constitution commemoratives and continuance of the silver and gold programs. It seems ironic that amidst all these activities 1987 is the bicentennial of the first coin authorized by Congress, the Fugio Cent of 1787.

The term "fugio" seems appropriate -- time flies. Where will the next 200 or even the next 50 years lead? Will credit cards and computer terminals lead to the demise of coinage as we know it today? Regardless of the answers to these questions, coinage is well established as an element of history. Coinage is an element that we as numismatists can study, collect, and share with future generations.

I would like to encourage everyone to enjoy the hobby of numismatics by involvement, particularly with PCNS. Study, collect, write about your favorite area of numismatics and, above all, join us at our monthly meetings. Remember, time flies!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right below the name.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CELTS AND THEIR COINAGE

by Rick Webster

When most people think of the classical world, they think of the Greeks and the Romans. However, the Greeks and the Romans were in Southern Europe. In Northern Europe the predominate people were the Celts. The Celts are known by the names given to them by the Greeks and Romans. Many of their tribal names survive today as the names of cities or regions in Europe.

To the Greeks, they were known as the Keltoi. The Keltoi appeared in Northern Europe in the Second Millenium BC and rapidly became a dominant force. Starting from the Danubian Basin, the Celts pushed west into the European peninsula. By the Ninth Century BC, they had reached Gaul, by the Eighth Century BC, the British Isles and, by the Seventh Century BC, Spain. Celtic tribes travelled in massive migrations that took years to complete. The migrations were do or die affairs, as the Celts travelled with their families and all their possessions.

To the Romans, the Celts were known as Celtae, Galli, Gauls, Gallic, Galatae, and Galatians. Tribal names survive today throughout Europe. The Gaels settled an island they called Eire, known today as Ireland. The Brythons settled an island known today as Britain. A Northern European tribe called the Belgae lived in modern day Belgium. The Aquatani were in southwest France in the area known in medieval times as the Aquatane. The Parisi originally were from the area of Paris. In Switzerland, the main tribe was the Helvetii. This name is still used on Swiss coinage. The Boii lived in the area of Europe known today as Bohemia. They migrated to Northern Italy where their tribal stronghold became known as Bologna. Finally, another tribe in Northern Italy called their city Mediolanum, today known as Milan.

Historically, the Celts are well documented. Around 600 BC, a Greek historian known to us as Massiliote Periplus sailed into the Atlantic and turned north. He reported two islands, Ierne and Albion. These were Ireland and Britain or, as they were known to the Celts, Eire and Albu. The Greek historian Hecatus, in 500 BC, mentions the Celts around the area of the Greek colony of Massalia - modern Marseilles. Herodotus, in 450 BC, wrote about Celts in the area of the Danube and the far west.

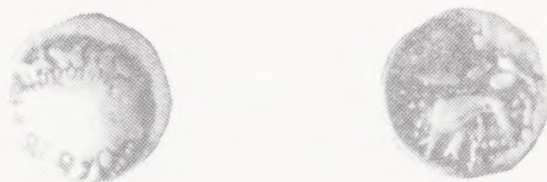
In the Fifth Century BC, the Gauls swept into Northern Italy, Macedonia, and Thessaly. To the Greeks and Romans they were quite a sight. Many of them fought naked as an invocation for magical protection. They shaved all body hair except the head and mustache. To the remaining hair they applied lime which made it white and stiff. Some of the British tribes dyed their bodies blue with woad. The Celts fought from chariots each having a driver and a warrior. Many times the warrior would perform acrobatics on the tongue of the chariot between the horses. Those that did not fight naked wore bracae, multicolored pants that were the forerunners of tartans.

In 390 BC, the Gauls defeated the Romans at the Battle of Allia. Three days later they entered Rome. Rome was held by the Celts for seven months during which they plundered, looted, and burned the city. When nothing was left and the Celts were bored, they accepted a bribe and left Rome a smoking ruin. The city was rededicated and rebuilt. The people of Rome then built the civilization that went on to the greatness it is well known for. In fact, it would be eight hundred years before the city of Rome would again be held by invaders. For the time being, the Celts remained in Northern Italy, or Cisalpine Gaul.



Celtic Gaul, 2nd Century BC
Copy of Alexander Drachm

The Celts were active in the Greek world as well. Celtic mercenaries fought with Syracuse in 369 BC. Alexander the Great had contact with them in modern day Bulgaria in 335 BC. In 279 BC, a large Celtic migration entered Greece and sacked the sacred city of Delphi. This act united the Greek City States who defeated the Celts in a battle near Delphi. Three of the tribes that survived the battle crossed over into Asia Minor. They settled in an area of modern day Turkey known as Galatia. St. Paul wrote an epistle to the Galatians, and St. Jerome, in the Fourth Century, said they spoke in the same manner as the people of Gaul.



Bulgaria - Danube Area
Copy of Alexander Drachm

Meanwhile, back in Italy, Rome was gaining strength. The naked lime-haired Gauls who had once defeated the Romans began to fall to the discipline of the Roman legions. In 225 BC, a large Celtic army was trapped between two Roman armies and defeated. The Boii in northern Italy were defeated in 192 BC. As the area

governed by the Roman Republic grew, the Celtic world began to decline. Between 58 and 50 BC, Julius Caesar spent nine years conquering Gaul, building a reputation and a fortune. Caesar went to Britain twice with small forces, but it wasn't until 43 AD that the Romans under the Emperor Claudius launched their invasion of Britain. For the next forty years, the Romans advanced in the lowlands of Britain and ruled it until the early Fifth Century AD.

Scotland was a constant source of trouble for the Romans - so much so that the Emperor Hadrian built his famous wall in the northern area of Britain to contain the Picts and Calendonsians. The Romans never attempted an invasion of Ireland. Ireland remained Celtic until the 1170's when the Norman English invaded. Slowly, over many hundreds of years, the English gained control of Ireland.



Cisalpine Gaul - Po Valley, Insurbes Tribe
3rd-2nd Centuries BC, Copy of Massalia Drachm
Artemis / Lion

The Celts were great warriors and were mercenaries in many of the armies of the classical world. Celts fought with Hannibal against Rome, and Celts fought with Rome against Hannibal. The legions of Rome had Gallic cavalry units that set the standards for cavalry warfare. Gallic warriors fought throughout the Roman Empire, yet the Celts as a people rarely fought in a united effort. If they had, they might have been greater than they were.



Rhone Valley, 121-52 BC
Denarius Copy, Roma / Dioscuri

The coinage of the Celts is both imitative and original at the same time. Early Celtic coinage copied issues of the Greeks and Romans, with coins very similar to originals. Later issues tended to be regressive. The Celts did not read Greek or Latin, so the titles and names meant nothing to them. These meaningless forms were either omitted or were turned into something recognizable like birds in flight. Portraits on coins, whether of

Phillip II, Alexander the Great, or the goddess Roma, also meant very little to the Celts. While some Celtic coins have full portraits, many concentrate on only a part of the original portrait. The wave and curl of the hair, a pattern on a head band or helmet are many times enlarged to fill the entire field of the coin. Horses were well loved by the Celts. One Celtic goddess was Epona, the horse goddess. It follows that many of the Celtic copies retain the horse that appeared on the tetradrachms of Phillip II and the denarii of Rome. On many Celtic coins, the horse is the central and best represented figure.



Southern Gaul, 2nd-1st Centuries BC
Copy of Corinthian Stater
Pegasus / crude head

The Danubian Celts had most of their contact with the Greeks. Tetradrachms with portraits of Phillip II of Macedonia with flowing hair, headband, and beard on obverse and a rider on horseback on the reverse were widely copied in this area. Drachms of Alexander the Great were also widely copied. The issues of Cisalpine Gaul, or Northern Italy, copy the issues of Rome.



Celtic Britain, Durotriges Tribe
Silver Stater, circa 60 BC
Disjointed head / horse and pellets

The issues of Gaul, Britain, and Celto-Iberian Spain have influences of both Roman and Greek coins. The Greek colonies of Massalia and Emporiai in southern Gaul brought the Celts into contact with many types of Greek coinage, including Corinthian staters with Pegasus and Athena. Roman influence was felt on two sides. As the Romans advanced in northern Italy and across the Alps, the Gauls came into contact with their coinage. Roman colonies in Spain also had contact with the Celts. So, many of the coins of Gaul have an interesting mix of Greek and Roman coin styles.



Danubian Basin, Copy of Phillip II Drachm
Head / Rider on horse

As Rome conquered the Celts, their coinage was replaced by the coins of the Roman Republic and Empire. Likewise, the society of the Celts was subdued by the civilization of Rome. The Celts became subjects rather than freemen. An interesting people and their coin styles died out in the process.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, D.F., The Coins of the Ancient Celts, Edinburgh University Press, 1980.
Chadwick, Nora, The Celts, Pelican Books, 1970.
Helm, Gerhard, The Celts, St. Martins Press, 1975.

(Photos for this article by Stephen M. Huston.)

COMING IN THE JULY ISSUE

Issue number 12 of The Journal will feature another fine article by William Henry. This time out, Bill delves into the ancient city of Athens and its coinage. Fine photos will accompany.

Remember, The Journal is comprised almost entirely of works by PCNS members. Your name can appear as well. Pen an article or letter soon, and send it to the editor. His address may be found on the inside cover.

SAN FRANCISCO THROUGH ITS TOKENS: THE CASTLE

By Jerry F. Schimmel

John E.W. Stange was the proprietor of THE CASTLE at 343 EAST ST. Like many tokens of this era, it was GOOD FOR 5c DRINK. The maker's name, in tiny letters, is MOISE K. CO., or the Moise-Klinkner Company. This token is of brass and is 21mm in diameter. It was worth a half shot of whiskey. East Street, of course, is the present-day Embarcadero.



The Castle Saloon opened in 1897 and continued through the earthquake to 1912. There was a Castle Annex, as well, at 343 East Street North. There were several partners. By 1915, Mr. Stange had moved out to the Richmond District and left the saloon business.

GRADING TIPS

by Bill Fivaz, NLG



WALKING LIBERTY 50-CENTS:

1. The key areas at which to look to determine wear are:
 - Obverse - Liberty's breast
 - Liberty's head
 - Reverse - Breast of the Eagle
 - Edges of the wing feathers.
2. Loss of luster (dullness) to denote wear is the absolute key in this as well as in other series - any series.
3. Weak strikes are quite common on this issue, especially on most of the "S" mints in the 1940s. Characteristics are:
 - a. Lack of detail from the center of the obverse in the hand area down the skirt covering the leg.
 - b. On the reverse, a softness shows from the eagle's breast down the leg.

NOTICE OF DISHONOR AND PROTEST

by Don T. Thrall

According to Webster, dishonor is the non-payment or non-acceptance of commercial paper by the party on whom it is drawn. An example of dishonor - you receive a check from an individual drawn on his bank "A"; you deposit it to your account in bank "B", and your bank presents it to bank "A" for payment. Bank "A" finds that there are insufficient funds in the account and so returns the check to bank "B". As soon as bank "A" refused to pay the check it was dishonored. Under present practices, your bank will charge the check to your account and then mail it to you along with a statement indicating the reason for non-payment. At this point, it would be up to you to write the "Notice of Dishonor" to the maker and anyone who might have endorsed it before you.

A bill of exchange payable at sight would be handled in a similar manner. A bill of exchange payable a given number of days after sight would be presented for acceptance. If it was not accepted, it would be dishonored, and a Notice of Dishonor could be written for non-acceptance.

When a negotiable instrument has been dishonored by non-acceptance or non-payment, notice of dishonor must be given to the drawer and to each endorser, and any drawer or endorser to whom such notice is not given is discharged.

An item against which a Notice of Dishonor has been issued should also be protested. Webster's definition of "protest" is a sworn declaration that payment of a note or bill has been refused and that all responsible signers or debtors are liable for resulting damage.

One example of an early notice of protest is shown opposite. It reads as follows:

CLYDE, September 16th 1840

SIR:--

Please to TAKE NOTICE that a Package of circulating note of the Millers Bank of N.Y. (secured by pledge of Public Stock) for one hundred and ten DOLLARS, payable at the MILLER'S BANK OF NEW YORK, endorsed by you, was this day PROTESTED for non-payment.-- The holders look to you for the payment of the same.

Your Obedient Servant,

To Bates Cooke BENJ. M. VAN DER VEER, Notary Public.
Comptroller St[ate] N.Y.
Albany

CLYDE, September 16th

1840

SIR:—

Please to **TAKE NOTICE** that a *Partage*

of circulating note of the *Muen Bank of N.Y.* issued by *holders of Russ's Stock*

for *One hundred and ten*

DOLLARS,

payable at the MILLER'S BANK OF NEW YORK, endorsed by you, was this day **PROTESTED** for non-payment.—

The holders look to you for the payment of the same.

Your Obedient Servant,

BENJ. M. VAN DER VEER, Notary Public.

*To Bate Cooke
Comptroller St-M.
Albany*

(Draft for) **NEW YORK.** *22nd July 1850*
Ten Days after sight of this FIRST of Exchange (second & third)
unpaid). Pay to the Order of Messrs Ward & Co

Protesters Insurance

Value received and charge the same to account.

To *Wm A Woodruff Esq*
52 *San Francisco*

W. A. Woodruff New York

This bill of exchange (draft) has been protested for non-acceptance and later for non-payment. All of the documents protesting non-acceptance and non-payment are fastened to the back of it.

Pay to the order of Messrs
Jeffrey Lillam & Co
Wanda Paid

Protest
non-acceptance } Aug. 26 / 50
Jm. G.
M. P.

Protest
for non-payment }
Sept. 8th 1850
J. M. G.
M. P.

This is the back of the draft shown on the previous page. Notice the endorsement and the notations showing date of non-acceptance and non-payment.

State of California

County of San Francisco }
On this twenty first
day of August A. D. 1850, I, John McVickar
Notary Public in & for said County, at the
request of Messrs. Goddard, Latham & Co. did
present the annexed bill of exchange, to the copy of
which is on the other side written, to Wm. A. Woodruff,
on whom the same is drawn; & demanded acceptance
thereof, which he refused.

Whereupon I the said Notary, at the request
aforesaid did protest, & by this protest do protest
as well against the drawer, & endorser of the
said bill, as against all others, whom it shall
or may concern, for exchange, re-exchange,
and all costs, damages and interest, already
incurred and to be hereafter incurred, by reason
of such non-acceptance.

And on the same day I gave copies of
the annexed notice to Goddard, Latham & Co.
directed to "J. S. Addison", and to "Ward &
Parr"

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand and seal of office, this day & year
first above written.

John McVickar
Notary Public
San Francisco C.

On the opposite page is shown the first of several letters detailing the dishonor and protest of the bill of exchange illustrated. It is representative of such correspondence:

State of California

County of San Francisco: On this twenty sixth day of August A.D. 1850, I, John McVickar a notary public in & for said county, at the request of Messers Goddifray Lillian & Co. did present the annexed bill of exchange, a true copy of which is on the other side written, to Wm. A. Woodruff, on whom the same is drawn, & demanded acceptance thereof, which he refused.

Where upon I the said notary, at the request aforesaid did protest, & by these presents do protest as well against the drawer & endorser of the said bill, as against all others, whom it doth or may concern, for damages and interest already incurred and to be hereafter incurred by reason of such non-acceptance.

And on the same day I gave copies of this annexed notice to Godiffray Lillian & Co. directed to "J.S. Addison" and to "Ward & Price"

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name and seal of office the day and year first above written.

John McVickar
Notary Public
San Francisco Co

References:

Sanders, Hy W., Bank Organization and Operation, American Institute of Banking, 1931.

Williston, Samuel, LL.D, Negotiable Instruments, American Institute of Banking, 1931.



Pacific Coast Numismatic Society's 800th Meeting Commemorative Medal. This piece is still available from the Society. Watch for details in the PCNS Bulletin.

MEDALS OF THE NORSE-AMERICAN CENTENNIAL

by David F. Cieniewicz

Collectors of United States commemoratives often include the 1925 Norse-American Centennial medal as part of their collection. Although understandable due to its size and commemorative theme, it should be pointed out that these are, in fact, medals, not coins.

The medals were authorized by Public Law 524 of the 68th Congress and approved March 2, 1925. All Norse medals were struck at the Philadelphia Mint, and they come in four varieties. The most commonly collected are the thick and thin half-dollar size struck in silver. The thin planchet variety contains 0.36 fine ounces of silver and has a mintage of 6,000 pieces. The far more common thick planchet variety contains 0.52 fine ounces of silver and has a mintage of 33,750.

The Norse-American Centennial Board also had 100 matte proof gold pieces struck, supposedly for visiting Norse dignitaries and influential members of Congress. The gold pieces are on a smaller planchet than the silver issue and were struck on June 3 and 4, 1925.

The Chairman of the Board was D. J. Kvale, Representative from Minnesota. Sometime during 1925 he learned of previous centennial medals which also came in larger sizes. Representative Kvale wanted to have a 3" bronze medal produced for display in libraries, museums, and other places where medals might be displayed. He felt that the large medals would show the medallic details better. He convinced other members of the Board, and the larger medals were authorized November 27, 1925. Sources differ as to whether 60 or 75 of the 3" medals were struck. They were all struck in bronze at the Philadelphia Mint and triple-silver plated outside the Mint by a private firm. Thirty of the larger medals were sent to dignitaries in Norway, and the balance were given away in this country.



In September of 1984, a 3" nickel medal appeared in public auction. This was its first appearance ever, and it realized \$4665 on an estimate of \$4000. The piece is believed to be unique.

Reference: "World Exonumia", Mail Bid Sale, 4 September 1984.

Photos for this article by Stephen M. Huston



PCNS LITERARY COMPETITION 1987

As in past years, the Literary Competition for 1987 will be judged by persons selected by a committee named by the President. Last year's committee, consisting of O. L. Wallis and Rick Webster, has been renamed by President Cieniewicz to serve in this capacity.

For the first time, this year's competition will be judged under the new rules adopted by the Board of Governors in August of last year (see issue number 9 of The Journal). These rules provide that the entries eligible for consideration by the judges will have appeared in any of the four issues of The Journal preceding the June Banquet at which the award winners are to be announced. In addition, the articles as published in The Journal must not have been considered for judging in previous competitions and must be unpublished when submitted to PCNS.

In action taken by the Board of Governors at its January 1987 meeting, it was determined that this year's competition would be expanded to include articles published in The Journal since January 1986, an addition of the two issues numbers 6 and 7. All other criteria for consideration remain the same. The action was taken to provide a greater field of competition, as many of the articles published in The Journal during the period prescribed in the rules were ineligible.

Below are listed those articles which qualify for this year's competition. The issue number in which the article was published appears in parentheses.

- Bowers, Q. David - "Acres of Diamonds" (8)
Fivaz, Bill - "Grading Tips" (7, 10, 11)
van den Haak, Fred G. - "Boordgeld" (9)
Huston, Stephen M. - "In the Year of the Comet" (7)
Lange, David W. - "A Love Token Revealed" (10)
Lange, David W. - "Sunny Jim and the '12-S Nickel" (7)
Schimmel, Jerry F. - "San Francisco Through Its Tokens"
(6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
Webster, Rick - "An Introduction to the Celts and Their Coinage" (11)



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10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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